

Welcome to Just Among Friends #6. Lot of good words came back about the change in style in JAF #5, so I'll try it again. I await the exact words on the postage increase that is coming up; I await it with a heavy heart, because when stamps go up, you, the reader, get it in the rear again. I plan to absorb the total costs in the change over from ditto to xerox-like printing (the increase you saw last month was because I made a mistake in clarifying the ditto costs). But on the postage, I can't absorb that, especially when I reach over the ounce mark (in the next few months). I'm sorry, but my foreign bank accounts are getting low and will have to be replenished.

But what is in this issue? Only the shadow knows! (Why do you all ask the same question each month?) I expect I'll hold the contest open another month; so Kathy, you will have to wait another month. The games keep rolling on along, except where I mess one up. There are some comments on last month's issue, and the illustrious Dr. Cagey.

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# Of Drivel and Dementia

It seems that everyone in the hobby is ignoring that I ignored the question of costs of running and producing Diplomacy zines last month. So I shall try to get back into the mainstream of hobby thought this month, and I shall ignore a timely and new topic: whether there should be a hobby vacation period, say August, in which all games are delayed, and zines are not published. I hope you appreciate the way in which I have treated this topic of hobby importance.

And now on to the "Attack of the Month." Now I'm mad enough to bite nails (and you all thought I was mad last month, huh?). And what you may ask is Uncle Al upset about this month? It's FAKES...yes, zine fakes. It seems that there have been a lot of them going around the hobby over the past year, and now some people are getting pretty pushy about the whole thing. Black Jack Masters gets mad that several of the other publishers plot to attribute his "Joys of Jane" Murdring Ministers to another individual. Gary Coughlan in his real Europa Express indicates he received a postcard from me after the fake Y'All came out in which I showed I believed Y'All was real and his. Also elsewhere in his zine Gary lists those publishers who completely ignore fakes sent to them, and there is ole Just Among Friends. So right in the middle of all this sits Uncle Al. Why do I ignore fakes? Well....

Uncle Al does not ignore fakes; AL is gullible (some say stupid, others say I am merely simple). Not only did I believe the Joys of Jane was real, I thought the first Y'All was real too (I wasn't too sure about the second Y'All, but I was willing to give Gary the benefit of a doubt). In fact Y'All was on my list of zines to plug. The fake Diplomacy Digest was one I considered to be one of the best Mark Berch had put out recently. And shucks, I thought all of those Volkers were real. I have sent stamps to Jane Proskin so I can get some more copies of Peek. The Banzy for Bonzo Retaliation I spotted for a fake after about three hours when I noticed my moves in R5 had worked too well, and the Black Press wasn't as nasty as usual.

I don't ignore fakes; I can't seem to tell a fake from a real zine. You have to admit I'm gullible. I allied with Liar Byrne in 1980AF after knowing her historic propensity to attack Austria when she is Italy. I believed John Michalski when he as Germany told me, the Russian, that his 1901 move to the Baltic was purely defensive. I believed several of my early players who said they would send in their subs after the zine got going. I mean I'm so gullible I still have a box of First National City of Saigon Traveler's Checks.

So let's quit picking on me for ignoring these fakes. I have enough trouble with all those players who send me their telephone bill telling me it's my fault they are so high, so I should pay half. Next thing you know Kathy will want child support payments for Phyllis and leapo.

\*Just Among Friends is a monthly publication of postal Diplomacy available from Al Pearson, Rt. 1, Box 177B5, Kearneysville, W.Va. 25430. JAF is published on or before the Wednesday after the last Thursday of each month. The last Thursday is the deadline for all games. If the zine isn't postmarked before the Wednesday or on that date, each subscriber gets a free issue. Subscriptions are \$5 per year (for the second month in a row), and game fees are \$2 per position in JAF #5, and that is still cheap. Please include a country preference list.

\*Game Openings-

JAF #5- Wilson, J. Overby, Johnson, Jurkowski, Byrne. 2 positions left.

\* The Standby List-

Williams, Palter, Mercer, Johnson, Caruson, Boggess, Wilson, Haffey, and Dunn. And a finer group of guys you won't find lurking about unless you check out the post office bulletin board.

\*If you need to call the publisher, the number is (304) 725-5537. Calling collect can be dangerous to you health and game position. I will be out of town a good bit in the months of March and April, so you'll just have to trust your luck.

\*Printed Articles--Were are the articles you guys have been promising to send to me? Haven't I offered to pay you off in extra issues of JAF? What's the problem, you want real money or something? No such luck! If I don't get any articles from you out there ( and I run short of material) I think I will start printing some of my six year old daughter's school work. So there!

\*Sample issues of JAF can be had! Er...I mean if you send me a first class postage stamp I will send by return mail a sample of JAF.

\*Mailing List- Since nobody wants a copy of the JAF mailing list(except Glenn Overby who claims it is for the Hobby Census, sure) I will not print the thing in the near future.

\*Contest- I have decided to allow another month for you to send in your answer to the current JAF contest. Since Kathy Byrne nicknamed me Liar-Pearson in Retaliation I am looking for suggestions for a nickname to use in other zines. A two issue extension or a game start will be awarded to the winner.

\*New games--After JAF #5 starts, it looks like JAF will go above the one ounce limit. So there is no real reason why there can't be a couple of new games starting in the next few months. I will not be going to the double issue type of approach, I'll absorb the extra postage on those current subscribers (only a few months anyway), and the new prices to the new subbers will take all this into account. As a related policy, I have decided to limit my subbers to two games of Diplomacy in JAF at a time (this excludes standby positions, of course); I have to draw the line somewhere so that I can continue to add new players.

\*Chump-Con. I have spoken with Roy Henricks (fabled publisher of Envoy) about the possibility of holding a one-day get-together in scenic Pittsburgh (center of commerce, industry, education, and culture of the Monongahela Valley). Roy thought it might be a good idea, so those of interested in a Saturday in sunny Pittsburgh, please contact me.

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1978KE- GM Screws Up!

In the Fall-Autumn-Winter 1906 move in the game, I incorrectly listed the English retreats for F Nth. The English player has retreat his fleet to Denmark, and thus is still in the game. England has one center and even; Germany has two centers and must remove 1. I once again ask Rich Dunn (address last issue) to send in the removal for Germany (either A Mun, A Boh, or F Hol) and Spring orders. It looks like Rich will take over the position next season. All orders and press on file will be saved for next month; players may update their orders and make new conditionals based on the new situation. Since I screwed up, I will extend each players sub another month. Sorry. Deadline is March 26 for orders and changes.

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1979S-Austria Vanishes Before Our Very Eyes!

Summer 1906

Russia- A Nwy r St.P

Fall, 1906

Austria(Palter)- A Bud-Vie(a)

France(Haffey)- F Lon S F MAO-Eng, F MAO-Eng, F Mar-H, A Gas-Bre, A Par-Pic, A Tyro-Mun

Germany(Boggess)- F Nwy-H (d), A Swe-Den, F Hel-Nth, A Bel-Bur, A Pic S F Eng-Bre,  
F Eng-Bre, A Bur-Par, A Sil-Mun

Italy(Swartz)- F Nap-Ion, A Ven-H, A Pie-Spa, F LyoCA Pie-Spa

Russia(Hart)- F Rum-H, F Nth-Nwy, F Nwg S F Nth-Nwy, A StP S F Nth-Nwy, A War-Sil,  
A Gal-Bud, A Vie S A Gal-Bud

Turkey(Dunn)- F Tri-H, A Ser S F Tri, F Alb S F Tri, A Bul S A Ser, A Gre S A Ser,  
F Ion-H

The Austrian A Bud is destroyed; the German F Eng must retreat Wal, Iri, otb.  
The Supply Center chart for 1906 is below. Winter 1906/Spring 1907 orders are due March 26.  
The German F Nwy retreats Swe, Ska, otb.

Supply Center Chart-1906

Austria- ~~Bud, Tyro, Ser~~ (0)

France- Bre, Mar, Par, Por, ~~Spa~~, Lvp, Lon (6)

Germany- Ber, Kie, Mun, Den, Hol, ~~Kon~~, Bel, Swe (7)

Italy- Nap, Rom, Ven, Tun, Spa (5)

Russia- Mos, Sev, StP, War, Nwy, Edi, Vie, Rum, Bud (9)

Turkey- Ank, Con, Smy, Bul, Gre, ~~Rum~~, Tri, Ser, (7)

out

Even

Remove 1 (may change on  
Build 1 retreats)

Build 2

Build 1

Press:

GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC- Some radicals got hold of our printing press last season;  
please ignore these fanatics.

PARIS- Have I no friends in the world?

PEST- Can't say I'm shocked at the turn of events. Congrats on finally figuring out how  
to kill a 3 center power.

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Note- I'd like to thank Dan Palter for playing out the Austrian position in 1979S. I mean it. Like, last month I screwed up in 1978KE and thanked Gene Boggess for being England, when England was Tim Haffey and Gene was Germany, and neither was a standby. Some months it just don't pay to thank anyone, but I try this month with Dan.

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1980HW-Velvet Claws-BOGGESS LOVES PAIN, ACCEPTS RUSSIAN THRONE!!!!

Winter, 1902

Austria- Build A Vie; Germany- Build A Mun, A Ber, F Kie; Turkey- Build A Con

Spring, 1903

Austria (Mercer)- A Gal-War, A Ven-Rom, A Tri-Ven, A Vie-Tyro, F Gre-Ion, A Bud-Tri

England(Dunn)- A StP-Mos, F Nwy-H, F Lon-Eng, F MAO S F Lon-Eng

France(Wilson)- F Lvp-Cly, F Bre-Eng, A Por-Spa, A Gas S A Por-Spa

Germany(Thompson)- A Mun-Bur, A Par S A Mun-Bur, A Bel-Pic, A Hol-Ruh, F Kie-Hel, F Den-Nth, F Swe-Nwy, A War-Lvn, A Ber-Sil

Italy(Swider)- A Naf-Tun, A Pie-Ven, F Spa(sc)-H (d), F WMed-Tyrr

Russia(BOGGESS!)- A Mos-War

Turkey(Williams)- F Bul(sc)-Aeg, A Con-Bul, F Bla-Con, A Sev-Mos, A Ukr S Aus, A Gal-War  
A Rum-Gal

The Italian F Spa(sc) must retreat (WMED, Lyo, Mar, or otb). My thanks to Gene Boggess for picking up the shambles of the Russian army (I don't inflict one center powers on anyone, but I do accept volunteers). That retreat and the Fall orders are due March 26.

Press:

BUD to FRANCE- I hope this keeps you a bit at ease.

BUD to NAPLES- After deep meditation the Emperor decided, in Austria's best interest, the safety of our nation would best be served by the extermination of one of our neighbors. This was being decided over a lasanga supper at which our beloved Emperor became sick, so guess what? He chose as our task Naples by 1904. Shall We?

BUD to TURKEY- It's still not too late to get some Italian leftovers.

ENGLAND to TURKEY- Onward. Support me into Moscow?

ENGLAND to ITALY- Watch your flanks!

ENGLAND to AUSTRIA- What happened to the RUSSIAN?

MOSCOW- The Workers of Russia have overthrown the Czar; we will no longer participate in this imperialist conflict--we wish only to regain our homeland. Any country who helps us will gain our gratitude and our assistance.

TURKEY- The Sultan's American representative announced today that a woman whose initials are K.B. has purchased the first Crimean Coast Condo, has renamed it Kathy's Kozy Krimean Kottage and has invited all European heads...of State to come up and see her sometime. She also is now using a new nom de guerre--the Sevastopol Sexpot! If you decide to visit her, do not forget to obtain an ottoman before hand. If you go there without one, you will miss out on some of the most amazing contortions you have ever seen.

CON to LON- Has the Fra invasion left you so desolate that you no longer write? I suggest you take a long look at the board and determine who is the greatest threat to your continued participation in this game.

CON to PAR- What the hell are you doing? You ask for help from the World and exhort all of us to "Kill Italy" and then you let him walk into Spa with that ludicrous order. I think you may very well deserve what you are about to get from Germ and Ita.

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GM NOTES TO ALL PLAYERS:

(IN ALL GAMES)

1. Watch your press datelines; you must control the province to use it as a dateline.
2. You have to indicate if the unit you order is an army or a fleet.
3. Be sure to put the coast on orders requiring this information (F's in Bul, Spa, etc).
4. West Coast players are warned it takes a while to get mail to scenic W.Va., mail your orders a day earlier.

1980HZ-Sulky Girl-GERMANY and RUSSIA STILL SULK, BUT MIGHT HOPE FOR IMPROVEMENTS

Winter, 1902

Austria- Remove F Alb; England- Build F Lvp; France- Build A Par; Germany- A Ber r Pru,  
Remove A Hol; Italy- Build F Rom; Russia- Remove F Ber, A Boh, And F Sev r Arm;  
Turkey- Builds A Ank, A Con, F Smy.

Spring, 1903

Austria(Johnson)- A Vie-Rum, A Bud S A Vie-Rum  
England(Boggess)- F Lvp-Wal, A Yor-Lon, F Nwy-Nth  
France(Schwartz)- F Por-MAO, F Eng-Nth, F Lon S F Eng-Nth, A Bel-Hol, A Ruh S A Bel-Hol,  
A Bur-Bel, A Par-Bur  
Germany(Brown)- A Pru-Ber, F Bal S A Pru-Ber, F Swe-Den, A Kie S A Pur-Ber  
Italy(Dumas)- F Nap-Ion, F Ion-Alb, F Rom-Tyrr, A Tri-H, A Ven-Tyro  
Russia(Greenwood)- A Gal-Ukr, A Sil-War, F Arm-Ank  
Turkey(Swartz)- F Smy-Aeg, F Gre S F Smy-Aeg, A Ank-Arm, A Con-Bul, F Sev-Bla, A Mos-Stp,  
A Ser S A Rum, A Rum S A Ser

Fall 1903 orders are due March 26. A F-T draw has been proposed, but the JAF  
houserules indicate a draw can't be voted upon until Spring 1905, so let's stick it out  
a little longer gang.

Press:

VENICE- The Vatican Peace Keeping forces have sent word that the Tyrolian atrocities  
have been avenged after a fierce battle. After a short rest in Vienna they are to  
be made available to any who need help in keeping the peace.  
GERMANY to GM- I'm sure getting my butt stomped!  
AUSTRIA- "Argh! A Touch! I do confess!"  
KIEL- To all the crowned heads of Europe (and the Crowned (Dick)Head of Russia): It's  
been real. And it's been nice. But I can't say that it's been real nice.  
PARIS to CON- Sorry for the lack of press.  
ANKARA to BERLIN- It appears the citizens of Berlin had a craving for Russian vodka that  
even the Kaiser couldn't control. Hold on, the Terrific Turkish Troops are coming  
(one way or another).  
ANKARA to VIENNA- In light of the Italian atrocities in Tyrolia our troops have moved  
into Greece and Serbia to protect the peace-loving citizens from the Italian invaders.  
Please let us know if further "assistance" is needed in Budapest and Vienna. After  
all, we are always ready to help our Austrian Brothers and neighbors.  
ANKARA to PARIS- I hope my "Dear Relative" doesn't become all unglued again. You didn't  
really expect your adopted country to do better than your own homeland did you? By the  
way, how are the sanitoriums in France? I hope they are more successfull with you than  
our Turkish sanitariums were.  
ANKARA to ROME- Congradulations on your success in Trieste (did the Austrians really run  
at first sight of you?). I had heard that the Czar of all the Russia's (Well, at least  
the ones that are left) was quite ugly, but not enough to scare seasoned veterans at  
first glance. At any rate welcome neighbor and if we can be of any help, just let us  
know!

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The Zine of Lists-- I am preparing a rip-off of the Book of Lists concerning the Diplomacy  
hobby. I have personally requested that several individuals furnish me with lists of  
players, press writers, moves, zines, least read books, etc. If you haven't been asked  
to contribute, now you have. Send in submissions in the next two months.

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1980IN-Curious Bride-France fails to attend service, but nobody steals his presents

Spring, 1902

Austria(Dyer)- F Gre S Rus F Rum-Bul(ec), A Ser S Rus F Rum-Bul(ec), A Tri-Tyro, A Vie-  
Boh, A Bud-Tri  
England(Niedelman)- F Den-Kie, F Lon-Nth, A Yor-H, A Edi-H, F Nwy-H  
France(Hobbs)-NMR- F Pic, A Spa, A Mar, A Par, A Bel all Hold  
Germany(Feber)- F Hol-Kie, A Kie-Ber, A Mun S A Kie-Ber  
Italy(Ganson)- F Nap-Apu, F Tun-Ion, A Ven-Tus, A Rom-Ven  
Russia(Clayton)- F Swe-Bal, A Ber-H (d), A War-Sil, A Mos-War, F Rum-Bul(ec), F Sev-Bla,  
A Ukr-Rum  
Turkey(Chilcott)- A Con S A Bul, F Bla S A Bul, F Smy-Aeg, A Bul-H (a)

The Russian A Ber must retreat (Pru, otb), and the Turkish A Bul was blown away.  
The deadline for the retreat and the Fall 1902 moves is March 26.

*Would Tom Williams, 145 S. Franklin Ave, Valley Stream, NY 11580 please standby for France.*

Press:

ITALY TO WORLD- Prince Carlo di Grande, unable to personally direct the Italian Spring maneuvers, could only observe sadly and truly from his sidecar at the Piazza del Popolo that "No roads lead from Rome."  
MOSCOW to BERLIN- You didn't have to take offense. It wasn't personal, you know!  
MOSCOW to LONDON- Better return to 10 Downing Street. Your new address doesn't work very well. My diplomatic mail was returned as undeliverable.  
MOSCOW to VIENNA- We should collaborate on a ballet...the waltz of the sugarplum armies.  
MOSCOW to TURKEY- Does turkey go well with TarTar sauce?  
MOSCOW to ITALY- Why don't you be the representative on the Diplomacy arbitration panel? You're a natural.  
MOSCOW to PARIS- Sorry about the tone of my previous messages. I just didn't want my allies to tread on one another's toes by accident. Now what was that about a tunnel under Switzerland?  
MOSCOW to GM- Take oars sir! These diplomats have been known to paint Diplomacy maps on doughnuts and attack through the hole (no Kidding)! I, of course, am above that kind of thing. Or rather, around that kind of thing. No doughnut has ever passed within reach of me and lived....

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1980KI-Howling Dog-ASK NOT FOR WHOM THE DOG HOWLS, IT HOWLS FOR THEE

Winter, 1901

Austria(G. Oveby)- Build A Bud.  
England(Mathias)- Build A Lon.  
France(Greenwood)- Build A Par, A Mar.  
Germany(Hart)- Build A Mun.  
Italy(Jones)- Build F Nap.  
Russia(Bates)- "No builds, no retreats, no removals, no nuthin."  
Turkey(Byrne)- Build F Smy, A Ank.

Spring 1902 orders are due March 26, 1981.

Press:

ST. PETERSBURG to ANKARA- Now I know what it is like to be entered from the rear. It's actually rather painful, but you'd know more about that than I would.  
ST. PETERSBURG to VIENNA- The geometric possibilities involved in your alliance with Turkey are unfathomable. But then maybe my imagination is more limited than I believe.

*(more Press next Page)*

More 1980KI Press:

LONDON- Rumors are circulating currently that Oliver Climbgood, the Minister for War, is distantly related to the late Fred Appleby. It is known that the minister has initiated an investigation of the exact relationship between Fred Appleby and Nikita Glorioski, to be conducted by the eminent historian Ito U. T'Ferrou of the Chinese Institute, who specializes in nobility of Tzarist Russia. It is also known that the Minister is planning on observing a mourning period in his memory.

RUSSIA to ANYONE- I know my situation is bad when I get a sympathy card from Tom Swider. Life's a toilet.

ST. PETERSBURG- TSAR DECLARES WAR ON THE WORLD: Today at the urging of Tsar Nikita Glorioski LXIX, the government of Russia declared war on every other country in the world. This unprecedented act by the new Russian ruler was greeted by a stunned silence from the capitols of Europe and snide jeers from the would-be poopahs of Asia Minor.

"We don't need no allies!" Isar Nikita told a crowd of worthless scumbag peasants gathered at the Kremlin to hear the great leader speak. "If you don't make no deals, you don't get screwed. As long as we don't have any friends, we don't have to worry about their unfaithfulness. Let's just stick it to everybody."

KALKASKA to ANYBODY WHO CARES- I am happy to announce the imminent publication of a series of short treatises on unorthodox Diplomacy openings. The first which will be published in the immediate future is called "The Blind Cossack Dpening or, How to Conquer the World Without Bleeding to Death From the Two Knife Wounds in Your Back" by Marion Bates and published by Plague Press International. It will be priced as a loss leader.

TURKEY to FRANCE and GERMANY- Did you run out of crayons? Or do you both have broken arms?

THE SLEEK SHIEK to TSAR NIKITA- My mailman thanks you for keeping him in business, however now that I took Sev will you keep your promise and never write me again. Your insults are begining to sound like summer reruns.

TURKEY to ENGLAND- If you support yourself into St.P at the same time I support myself into Mos--you too can receive nasty letters from the Tsar!

SLIEK SHIEK to SULTAN WILLIAMS- Why don't we check out the Condos in Crimea together; I bet it would be more romantic that way.

TURKEY to GM- You may have just saved Russia, considering the fact that I threw your houserules in the trash without reading them, I can just imagine how many of my abbr will be disallowed. P-I-C-K-Y ain't you? I mean after all I couldn't figure out if he was going to Norway or Norfolk or Normandy!

GM to TURKEY- How Droll.

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1980 LQ-Lucky Legs-Lucky(?) Players Start Game, All Orders Succeed

### Spring 1901

Austria(Stull)- F Tri-Alb, A Bud-Ser, A Vie-Tri

England(Bates)- F Edi-Nwg, A Lvp-Yor, F Lon-Nth

France(Chaney)- F Bre-Mao, A Par-Pic, A Mar-Spa

Germany(Haffey)- F Kie-Bal, A Mun-Ruh, A Ber-Kie

Italy(P. Overby)- A Ven-Apu, A Rom-Ven, F Nap-Ion

Russia(Ziezio)- F Stp(sc)-Bot, A Mos-StP, F Sev-Bla, A War-Ukr

Turkey(Ondek)- A Con-Bul, F Ank-Con, A Smy-Ank

Fall 1901 orders (and maybe some press this time) due March 26.

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## ON LAST MONTH'S JOHN LENNON ARTICLE

(from Gene Bogges)

I voted for McGovern in '72, Ford in '76, and Reagan this past year, so I'm sort of like you; in fact, I expect that most people do not consistantly vote for one part, but for an individual (or against the choice they are given). However, I believe I do, from year to year, maintain a consistant set of standards against which to measure the candidates and compare their political philosophy.

Similarly, I maintain my affection and respect for John Lennon despite the fact that his records as a solo artist have not appealed to me, because his personal standards as a musician and his integrity in his beliefs and private life have always impressed me, even if I do not often agree with them. Nostalgia for a "better time"?--perhaps (even the '60's look good to me from my present perspective, and I hated them when I went through them). But I think the real reason for the reaction to John's death was simply the realization that the possibility of a Beatle reunion was now destroyed.

It's not so much that the music was so all-important, although I was one who expected (hoped?) that the music could indeed change the world. It was the symbolism of the Beatle-music, the fact that it stood for a lot of things interwoven with the idealized memory of a previous time, which we hoped to someday be able to recapture--idealism, innocence, peace and goodwill--so much more. But with John's death we were forced to accept the fact that you can't go home again--only forward, to an unknown and possibly fearsome future.

Salk, Welty, Friedman, Fitch, or Goldwater may have made more tangible contributions to our life, but not more important contributions. The fabric of a society is knit from the symbols expressed in its culture; John was so important because he was a universally recognized symbol--everyone knew about him, if they didn't like his music or agree with his politics. His death deprived us of a common element of our experience--a way of relating to one another--and we are the poorer because of it.

The reaction to his death was an attempt to make permanent in our hearts the symbols he embodied, not an irrational outpouring of undeserved praise. The memorial services and wakes, like all funerals, were intended to try to fix his essence forever in our minds, both individually and collectively (our culture). Without these leave-taking gestures, his value as an element of our subsumptive myth would be lost. This is the reason for the eulogies. He may not have been great, but he was important.

(from Mark Larzelere)

I don't agree that the media hyped his death to push the "pacifist-liberal-socialist-leftist effort"--more likely, they publicized it to sell newspapers. More importantly, those causes have distinctions between them. Lennon may have been a pacifist, but do you really believe he wasn't a capitalist? A man worth over \$200 million?

(from Dick Martin)

Don't you think Brad is a bit narrow-minded? Funny, but I never remember him acting so berserk before Ronnie Rayguns got elected....Just one thing I'd like to ask him: how would he react if Springsteen had been shot? Especially if it had been shortly before he released "The River?" After all, he hadn't done anything for 3 years, and he wasn't even "retired." Sure, plenty of people have arguably made "greater contributions" than Lennon, but few have gotten into our hearts like Lennon did. Maybe he didn't get to Brad, but I don't begrudge him that. He doesn't seem to realize that this was a very real outpouring of emotion worldwide as opposed to the return of the hostages. The government/media hype for that was appalling. Well, that's my opinion, not shared by any other sane person.



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DIPLOMACY DOCTOR by Dr. Ben Cagey, MD.

Dear Dr. Cagey,

I played FTF with Tom Williams this weekend. Do you think it was fair for him to demand a private room for his negotiations with the players? Also do you really think the bright lights and rubber hoses were necessary to interrogate the witnesses (I mean diplomacize with the players)?

Hospitalized in Flushing

Dear Basket Case,

It is widely known throughout the hobby that Tom Williams is a very forceful Dip player. It is not unusual for Tom to charge admission to sicker (mental) members of our society to view his "bargaining sessions". Just consider yourself lucky you are not a beautiful young lady; he still uses the bright lights, the rubber hoses, and other latex and leather items, but he films these sessions. These films in which he stars (and receives top billing) are then sold to porno movie houses under titles such as, "The Rape of Austria" and "Italian Forces Violating the Soft Underbelly of France."

Dear Dok-tuh,

I don't seem to understand. This "Pope Kathy" person seems to follow me around the hobby. Even when I am not in the same game as her, she attacks me. What can I do to shake this ~~slime~~ fine specimen?

Call me "Crud"

Dear Grub,

Pope Kathy is a pestilence to the hobby and should be treated as such. All letters to her should be soaked in Agent Orange. Postcards should be dusted with Sevin due to their small size. If you really want to shake her off, there are two good choices: (1) introduce her to the game "Self-Lobotomy", or (2) invite her over to the house for a FTF dip game with Pearson, Swider, Coughlan, Michalski, Bates, and yourself, she will self-destruct when she opens the door.

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PERSONAL GLIMPSES AT FAMOUS DIPLOMACY PLAYERS (Part I): Kathy Byrne



You all wondered how she did so well in this postal hobby!!

(reprinted from Voice of Doom)A Diplomacy Vacation

by Doug Beyerlein

Vacations are great fun. Vacations allow one to do new things, see new sights, and think new thoughts. They are a refreshing change of pace. There is no better way to shake the cobwebs from the mind, view the current situation from a fresh perspective, and generate new creative juices. Everyone should take at least one vacation every year.

When was the last time you took a vacation away from Diplomacy? I don't mean the week you had final exams and didn't have time to answer your correspondence for your postal games. Or the time you spent two weeks at the cabin with Uncle Ned and Aunt Nell. Those were periods away from your typewriter and mailbox, but your games and zine were probably still in your head. If you had been playing postal Diplomacy for more than a year you need a vacation from the game.

At this point you may agree that it would be nice to take a month off from Diplomacy, but it is impossible. Every day the mail arrives there are letters to answer, orders to write, and zines to read. It might be possible to dump it all in a box and ignore it for a week or two at the most, but that is taking chances with deadlines and wavering allies. There must be a better way.

There is. The hobby (you and I) needs a one-month vacation away from postal Diplomacy. One month when there is no postal Diplomacy. One month when we all rediscover what the world is like without Diplomacy; when we get outside or into a good book; when we stop and take the time to reexamine why we are addicted to this madness called postal Diplomacy, which devours our time and money with uncomfortable ease.

To make this vacation from Diplomacy effective we all have to vacation together. We need to take our vacation all at the same time. If we are going to stop postal Diplomacy in its tracks for one month each year it has to be a collective effort. Half of a vacation isn't much better than none in this case.

There are two periods that immediately come to mind that will make good times for a vacation: (1) November-December and (2) one of the summer months. The period between Thanksgiving and Christmas is hectic for most of us. There are college final exams, shopping for Christmas presents, and visits home for the holidays. The summer months can also be busy and offer other diversions (work, travel, adventure, etc.). My choice for a Diplomacy vacation month is August. August usually offers the best weather of the summer, it is usually after the DipCon, and it is before school starts up in the autumn. A vacation from Diplomacy in August allows the Diplomacy player, gamesmaster, and publisher time to investigate new ideas, places, and people before reimmersing into the thick of the hobby come September. This annual vacation will give everyone time to stop and collect their breath before charging back into battle. Maybe fewer players and publishers will overcommit themselves and drop out of the hobby in the future when they have a month off to think over the alternatives. Maybe we will all feel a little more excited and creative and in turn enjoy the hobby more.

What is the price? A game will move one season slower per calendar year and novices eager for action will have to sit on their hands for a month. Is it worth the price? Definitely yes!

I am willing to back my words with action. I will not publish my zine, EFGIART, in August. The July issue will give the next season's deadline in September, just as if August doesn't exist. This way I will give my players and myself a vacation from the game. I hope that you will do the same.

(JAF will print responsible comments on the above in the next issue.)

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JAF

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PEARLS OF WISDOM  
by Beauregard Bureaucrat

- (1) Some parts of the country are worried about not having enough snow, a situation that could be corrected by giving them the share allotted to those of us who think any amount is too much.
- (2) Remember when one of the prerequisites for a high school diploma was a high school education?
- (3) When my boat comes in it will probably be a garbage scow.
- (4) The main difference between winter and summer is that winter is still there when you return from a weekend out of town.
- (5) Monday is an awfull way to spend one-seventh of your life.
- (6) A lot of people love their jobs. It's the work they hate.
- (7) Perfect is the art of making your mistakes look like profound truths that no one else can understand.
- (8) I don't really like to complain, but it seems like I've been reaping a whole lot more than I ever had a chance to sow!
- (9) A Two Dollar Bill--What a 1970 Ten Dollar Bill is worth today.
- (10) There's a certain amount of satisfaction in being able to criticize the report card of a kid who thinks he's smarter than you are.
- (11) This will go down as the delightful winter when we were able to enjoy the sight of a guy in his first pair of cowboy boots trying to cope with an icy sidewalk.
- (12) The easiest way to figure the cost of living is to take your income and add ten percent.
- (13) How come common sense is so uncommon?
- (14) A landlord is a person who comes around when everything is working right.
- (15) Life is like a stew; you have to stir it frequently, or all the scum rises to the top.

(Your comments on Beau's material is welcome; I wish Beau could figure out how to use punctuation properly.)

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PERSONAL GLIMPSES AT FAMOUS DIPLOMACY PLAYERS (Part II): Jack Masters



Jack's wife pleads with him not to play England in 1981C- The Snake Pit

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Jerry,

Has my sub to Dip World  
expired? If so, let me know.  
Notice the new feature "Personal  
Glimpses". You too can be included.

af

## Zines of Interest--

Bruce Linsey, Bldg 11, Apt 21, Leisureville, Watervliet, NY 12189, puts out a very interesting zine, Voice of Doom. A center of controversy, a strict GM, and a guy who causes talk--all this describes BRUX. He doesn't have any game openings (but he needs standbys), but the reading is very good reading, all for \$5.50 for ten issues.

Have you always felt that no one understood the real you? Well, if you are a real Dip player, you probably are mediocre at heart. So for all of us who practice closet mediocrity, there is The Shogun's Sword by Tom Snyder, 1183 Robinson Hill Road, Edwell, NY 13760. If you want a good game, go somewhere else, but if you think you can win against mediocre opponents, with mediocre GMing, TSS is the place to try. Subs are \$6 per year. Please don't tell him I sent you.

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